

## STATE OF WASHINGTON

## **DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

Washington Veterans Home • 1141 Beach Drive E• Port Orchard, Washington 98366 • (360) 895-4700

April 30, 2020

Dear Washington Veterans Home Residents, Family or Representative,

We are sending this letter in our continuing effort to keep you informed of the status of our Home during the COVID-19 crisis.

It is with a very real sense of urgency, forced upon us by COVID-19, that I must further strengthen the "NO Visitors ON CAMPUS" restrictions.

Effective Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, a security check point will be set up near the driveway of Building 9 and only staff, suppliers, or other essential service providers will be allowed on campus.

This is being done because unfortunately, there have been too many incidents where family and friends have put our residents and staff at risk by not following the Stay Home, Stay Healthy order or the Governor's Proclamation restricting visitors in long term care facilities.

Through the hard work of our heroic staff, and because we have followed mandates from state and federal governments, we still have no active COVID-19 case's in our residents. The virus is a sneaky enemy and can be transmitted in a variety of ways without any evidence that a person is infected. We must continue to take actions to protect our residents and our staff members.

Debbie Narducci (Cashier) at 360-894-4715, will contact the families who still desire to launder their resident's personal laundry to schedule pick-up and delivery. If you currently have a compassionate care exemption from the Medial Director, you will be cleared to continue to the facility. Employees, suppliers and service personnel will also be allowed. All other visitors to the campus will be turned away until mandates are eased and it is safe to again allow visitors. Any gifts or packages that you wish to give to your loved one will be left at the security post and transported to the facility from there, so do not leave any perishable food items.

We are asking that you inform all of your family members, pastors, or other visitors who routinely visit your loved one of these further precautions as soon as possible. As new information is provided to us we will continue to adjust our procedures to respond in the most effective way possible to keep your loved one safe and healthy.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

We will continue to provide regular updates here and on our website at: <a href="https://www.dva.wa.gov/covid">www.dva.wa.gov/covid</a>. If you have questions, please contact us at 360-895-4700 with any questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely,

Here Wiemerslage, Administrator

Washington Veterans Home

Department of Veterans Affairs